

# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

*file copy*

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO

DATE

July 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

C/MOD

2.

3.

C/ESG

4.

5.

C/FED

6.

7.

C/ADD

8.

9.

C/HED

10.

11.

C/Computer Operations

12.

13.

14.

15.

Retain/Destroy

MNC 4813-88  
5 August 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Acting Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau -- July 1988

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau's few monitors capable of covering Iranian and Armenian broadcasts were stretched thin during the month as a result of the U.S. downing of an Iranian airliner, the sudden Iranian acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and BBC's loss of its contract Armenian monitor. In response to Soviet Armenian unrest, additional Armenian coverage was placed on watch, and the bureau began processing items monitored from the Armenian-language ARMENPRES news agency, the latter requiring decipherment from Cyrillic into Armenian before they could be translated into English. On 20 July, NEAD Armenian linguist [ ] arrived TDY to assist coverage and develop her voice monitoring skills. After consultation with Headquarters, the bureau temporarily suspended coverage of Iranian publications received by means of air courier service. In an experiment to utilize Headquarters' Persian-language capabilities, the bureau faxed a 10,000-word article to NEAD, which relayed the same article by fax to a JPRS contractor, who returned the finished translation to NEAD by modem two days later. At the end of the month, BBC assumed coverage of the bureau's one daily Moscow Radio Peace & Progress Persian-language program upon the start of one Persian monitor's leave period.

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2. The first reports on the 11 July terrorist attack against a Greek cruise ship were filed immediate from AFP. The bureau continued filing numerous high-precedence reports from AFP and the Greek and Cypriot radios over the next few days, watching closely for possible mentions of American passengers.

3. The Greek section procured the Nicosia dailies O AGON and ALITHIA near the end of the month for reports on the Greek Liberation Army, a newly formed Cypriot group that espouses armed struggle against Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus. In a significant local event at the end of the month, a Greek Cypriot national guardsman was shot and killed by Turkish troops while attempting to cross the buffer zone.

4. The bureau's access to Cairo television, monitored in Limassol at the senior technician's home, diminished somewhat at the end of the month as a nearby building under construction interfered with reception. Different antenna locations will be tried to improve reception.

## B. Lateral Services

A request by letter from the American Consulate in Istanbul for items on Turkey was relayed to LRB.

## C. Communications

A two-man team of LEC communications specialists spent a week at the bureau installing and testing new computer hardware and software, training bureau teletype operators in their use, and putting them into operation in place of the bureau's paper tape transmission system. The LEC team also surveyed the bureau for its future automation needs under FBA and found it technically well prepared.

## D. Technical

1. A Pitney-Bowes Model 8230 fax transceiver was purchased and installed, and a dedicated telephone line was connected for fax use. However, the bureau encountered unresolved fax reception problems, apparently caused by the excessive distance between the bureau and its telephone exchange. The bureau anticipates being hooked up to a new, much closer exchange early in 1989; in the meantime, alternative solutions are being sought.

2. Three Victor personal computers were received from Headquarters. Two were installed in the teletype room as the Transmit workstation and a spare. The third computer was sent to Paraguay Bureau. The bureau also received an Extel Comscribe printer for use with the communications section computer system.

3. At the request of FED, the bureau put its modem on line temporarily to transmit a copy of the CAAS-R computer program back to Headquarters.

## II. VISITS

1. [redacted], Production Group Armenian linguist, arrived 20 July for a 1-month TDY.

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2. LEC contractors [redacted] arrived 16 July. [redacted] departed 21 July and [redacted] 24 July.

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3. [redacted] former Turkish/Arabic monitor at Nicosia Bureau, now living in Arizona and working on contract for JPRS, visited the bureau 11 July on personal travel.

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